

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming system, comprising:  
an image forming apparatus which includes:

a recording material supply path for supplying a recording material in a substantially vertical direction from a recording material storage section towards an image forming section for forming an image on the recording material, wherein said recording material transport path is provided in said image forming apparatus along one of side walls of a main body of said image forming apparatus; and

a peripheral equipment to be connected to said image forming apparatus in parallel to the side wall on a side of said recording material supply path in said main body of said image forming apparatus,

said main body of said image forming apparatus has a space which allows said recording material supply path to open from a front side of said image forming apparatus, said space being formed between an inner side wall on a side of connecting said peripheral equipment and said recording material supply path.

2. The image forming system as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

said space is formed in sufficient size to allow said recording material supply path to open in such a manner that an operation of removing said recording material stuck in said recording material supply path can be performed.

3. The image forming system as set forth in claim 1,  
wherein:

    said recording material supply path includes a guide  
    section which forms said space; and

    said guide section is supported so as to be rotatable  
    about an axis provided at a bottom end of said recording  
    material supply path, so that said guide section can be  
    moved to the space.

4. The image forming system as set forth in claim 2,  
wherein:

    said main body of said image forming apparatus has  
    a cover on a front side of said main body of said image  
    forming apparatus, which opens and closes said space as  
    desired.

5. The image forming system as set forth in claim 1,  
wherein:

    said image forming apparatus includes a recording  
    material re-transport path for reversing a recording  
    material having formed thereon an image and transporting  
    said recording material again to said image forming  
    section; and

    said recording material supply path and said  
    recording material re-transport path are provided in such  
    a manner that said space is formed below said recording  
    material re-transport path in said main body of said image  
    forming apparatus.

6. The image forming system as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

    said peripheral equipment is a recording material supply device for supplying a recording material from outside said image forming apparatus to said image forming section; and

    said recording material supply device has an expanded recording material storage section which can be drawn to a front side.

7. The image forming system as set forth in claim 5, wherein a height of an upper surface of said peripheral equipment is selected so as to allow a predetermined unit of said image forming apparatus to draw at above said peripheral equipment.

8. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 7, wherein:

    said predetermined unit includes a both-sided printing transport device which has said recording material re-transport path.

9. The image forming system as set forth in claim 5, wherein:

    said recording material re-transport path is provided along an inner side wall of said main body of said image forming apparatus on a side of said recording material supply path, and said recording material re-transport path can be opened at above said peripheral equipment.

10. The image forming system as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

    said recording material supply section can be drawn to a front side; and

    not only an operation of said image forming apparatus but also an operation of said peripheral equipment can be performed from a front side of said image forming system.

11. An image forming apparatus connectable to a peripheral equipment, comprising:

    a recording material supply path for supplying a recording material in a substantially vertical direction from a recording material storage section towards an image forming section for forming an image on the recording material,

    wherein said recording material transport path is provided in said image forming apparatus along one of side walls of a main body of said image forming apparatus; and

    said main body of said image forming apparatus has a space which allows said recording material supply path to open from a front side of said image forming apparatus, said space being formed between an inner side wall on a peripheral equipment connecting side and said recording material supply path.

12. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein:

    said space is formed in sufficient size to allow said

recording material supply path to open in such a manner that an operation of removing said recording material stuck in said recording material supply path can be performed.

13. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein:

    said recording material supply path includes a guide section which forms said space; and

    said guide section is supported so as to be rotatable about an axis provided at a bottom end of said recording material supply path, so that said guide section can be moved to the space.

14. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 12, wherein:

    said main body of said image forming apparatus has a cover on a front side of said main body of said image forming apparatus, which opens and closes said space as desired.

15. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein:

    said image forming apparatus includes a recording material re-transport path for reversing a recording material having formed thereon an image and transporting said recording material again to said image forming section; and

    said recording material supply path and said recording material re-transport path are provided in such

a manner that said space is formed below said recording material re-transport path in said main body of said image forming apparatus.

16. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a recording material supply path for supplying a recording material in a substantially vertical direction from a recording material storage section towards an image forming section for forming an image on the recording material,

wherein said recording material transport path is provided in said image forming apparatus along one of side walls of a main body of said image forming apparatus;

said main body of said image forming apparatus has a space which allows said recording material supply path to open from a front side of said image forming apparatus, said space being formed between an inner wall on a side of said recording material supply path and said recording material supply path; and

said space is formed in sufficient size to allow said recording material supply path to open in such a manner that an operation of removing said recording material stuck in said recording material supply path can be performed.

17. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 16, wherein:

said recording material supply path includes a guide section which forms said space; and

said guide section is supported so as to be rotatable about an axis provided at a bottom end of said recording material supply path, so that said guide section can be moved to the space.

18. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 17, wherein:

said main body of said image forming apparatus main body has a cover on a front side of said main body of said image forming apparatus, which opens and closes said space as desired.

19. The image forming apparatus as set forth in claim 16, wherein:

said image forming apparatus includes a recording material re-transport path for reversing a recording material having formed thereon an image and transporting said recording material again to said image forming section; and

said recording material supply path and said recording material re-transport path are provided in such a manner that said space is formed below said recording material re-transport path in said main body of said image forming apparatus.